

Order of Worship

April 26, 2026

Call to Worship

The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want.
He leads us beside still waters and restores our souls.

Christ is the gate for the sheep,
The one who leads us to abundant life.
We come to follow, to listen, and to be renewed.

Let us worship the Good Shepherd.
With grateful hearts, we worship God.

Call to Confession

Though Christ calls us by name,
We do not always follow his voice.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

**Good Shepherd,
You call us to follow you,
Yet we wander from your paths.
You lead us toward life,
Yet we chase after things that cannot satisfy.**

**We confess that we have not trusted your care,
Nor listened for your voice.
We have lived in ways that harm others
And diminish your love in the world.**

**Forgive us, O God.
Lead us back to your ways.
Restore our souls and guide us in righteousness,
For the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news:
Christ, the Good Shepherd, lays down his life for the sheep.
In him we are forgiven, restored, and led into abundant life.
Thanks be to God!



Prayer for Illumination

Shepherding God,
Open our ears to hear your voice
And our hearts to follow your call.
As your Word is proclaimed,
Lead us in paths of righteousness
For your name's sake.
Amen.

Affirmation of Faith (*Apostles' Creed*)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived of the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And life everlasting.**

Amen.

Call for the Offering

The early church shared all things in common,
Praising God with glad and generous hearts.
Let us offer our gifts in that same spirit of joy and generosity.

Prayer of Dedication

Abundant God,
You provide for us and lead us in right paths.
Receive these gifts as signs of our trust and gratitude.
Use them to care for your people
And to bring your love into the world.
Through Christ our Shepherd.
Amen.



Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Good Shepherd,
You know your sheep and call us by name.

We pray for those who feel lost or alone,
That they may hear your voice and find comfort.

We pray for those in need—
For the hungry, the sick, the oppressed—
that they may experience your care and provision.

We pray for your church,
That we may reflect your love,
Living in community with glad and generous hearts.

Guide us, protect us, and lead us
In the ways of your kingdom.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
Who taught us to pray, saying:
“Our Father, who art in heaven...”

Charge and Benediction

Go forth, listening for the voice of the Good Shepherd,
And follow where Christ leads.
May the Lord, your Shepherd, guide you and keep you.
May Christ lead you into abundant life.
May the Spirit restore your soul and give you peace. Amen.

Liturgy by Morgan Magelssen

Prepared for the Fourth Sunday of Easter worship using the following

Revised Common Lectionary texts (Year A):

Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

This liturgy is offered for free use and distribution.

